

### REMARKS

In response to the above-noted Office Action, Claims 7, 16 and 17 have been cancelled, Claims 1-6, 8-15 and 18-28 have been amended responsive to the rejection under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, and to eliminate all multiple-claim dependencies. Two claims have been added, namely Claims 31 and 32.

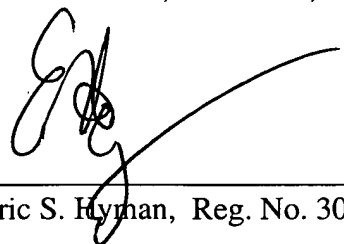
In view of the foregoing, it is submitted that all outstanding requirements have been addressed, and the claims pending for examination, namely claims 1-6, 8-15, 18-28 and 31-32 are now in condition for allowance, which early action is requested.

If there are any fees due in connection with the filing of this response, please charge those fees to our Deposit Account No. 02-2666. If a telephone interview would expedite the prosecution of this Application, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at (310) 207-3800.

Respectfully submitted,

BLAKELY, SOKOLOFF, TAYLOR, & ZAFMAN

Dated: June 1, 2004

By:   
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#### CERTIFICATE OF MAILING:

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class Mail , With Sufficient Postage, In An Envelope Addressed To: Mail Stop Amendments, Commissioner For Patents P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

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Linda Marie D'Elia June 1, 2004